teachers and mentors like Ms. Rhymer who recognize the importance of building a culture where every student can succeed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

## HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2013

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, on Monday September 9, 2013, I missed rollcall No. 448. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was at the classified briefing on Syria in which Members of Congress were briefed by Secretary Kerry, Secretary Hagel, General Dempsey, and National Security Advisor Rice. HONORING THE MONK FAMILY FARM

## HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, September 17, 2013

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 185th anniversary of the Monk farm's founding in Worth County, Georgia.

As one of the Georgia Centennial farm recipients, this farm is one of Georgia's historic landmarks and a beloved and cherished part of our past.

In 1828, a newly married William and Alcy Monk built a home on a hill in what was to become southern Worth County. William would eventually come to purchase plots of land totaling almost 2000 acres, where he would cultivate sugar cane, tobacco, and cotton. The beginnings of the Monk farm are in many ways, reminiscent of Georgia—and America's—agricultural heritage.

Beginning in the early 1900's, it saw recent Mercer Law School graduate and later State Court Judge Chesley Monk practice law farm the property for over 50 consecutive years. It saw naval officer Ridley Monk return home to operate the farm after fighting World War Two in the Pacific. And it has even seen—and was home to—the very first farming tractor in Worth County.

But the Monk farm is not only a story of the past; it also embodies the story of Georgia's growth. Despite its success, however, it has remained in the Monk family for six generations, and has filled the farm with countless memories. Though the Monk family's dreams and careers have taken them near and far away, the farm and the family's devotion to it remain.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great enthusiasm that I congratulate the Monk family on their farm's long-standing place in Georgia's—and America's—rich historic past. Here's to their place in the next 185 years of American history.